



Asian American LEAD

Leadership, Empowerment, and Development for Youth and Families

For Immediate Release

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ROSETTA LAI NAMED INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF AALEAD

(Washington, DC, September 10, 2007) – Asian American Lead (AALEAD) today announced that it has named Rosetta Lai as Interim Executive Director. Ms. Lai, who currently serves as the organization’s Vice President of Development and External Affairs, will assume her new position when founding Executive Director Sandy Dang leaves September 30. AALEAD is conducting a national search for a permanent executive director.

“Rosetta Lai brings a unique blend of experiences and talent honed throughout her career as a corporate executive, educator and leader in Asian American nonprofit organizations. Her passion, vision and commitment to AALEAD will serve us well through this transition. She is a strong leader and will continue the work of our founder Sandy Dang,” said AALEAD Board Chair, Teresa Lee.

Ms. Lai was recruited to AALEAD in September 2005 to oversee resource development and external outreach. She spent 20 years in the corporate sector holding senior positions with global companies such as Motorola, SRA/IBM and NCS/Pearson helping business units improve their organizational effectiveness. Her work took her around the country and the Asia Pacific Region. She has applied the results-oriented techniques of corporate management to non-profit organizations when she served as President of the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA), Chicago Chapter in the 1980s and in her current service as the National President of the Organization of Chinese American Women.

Prior to entering the corporate sector, Ms. Lai spent eight years in education where she was the Dean of Women at Lake Forest Academy in Chicago and the Academic Dean at St Mary’s Academy in South Bend, Indiana. She holds an M.A. in Sociology from University of Notre Dame and a Bachelor of Arts in History from St. Mary’s College, both located in Notre Dame Indiana.

“It is a great honor for me to continue and strengthen the work of AALEAD in giving a voice, hope and opportunity to low-income Asian American children and families in the Greater Washington, DC region. It is a credit to Sandy Dang’s leadership that we have the staff, Board and support of the community to continue her work and to move her vision forward for the future,” said Rosetta Lai.

About AALEAD

Founded in 1995, AALEAD’s overarching goal is to increase the opportunities and ability of low-income Asian American children to move out of poverty and become successful, self-sufficient adults. AALEAD firmly believes that education is the key to meeting this goal. However, AALEAD understands that children need additional family, school, and personal supports, not just academic assistance, to succeed. Consequently, AALEAD uses a five-pronged approach to youth development, offering each child after school intervention in a safe space, mentoring, family support and educational advocacy. www.aalead.org

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